

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A suture anchor comprising:

an elongated shaft having an exterior sidewall extending between a proximal end and an opposing distal end;

a helical first thread wound about and outwardly projecting from the exterior sidewall of the shaft so as to extend between the proximal end and the distal end of the shaft; and

a first suture port transversely extending through at least a portion of the first thread at the proximal end of the shaft.

2. A suture anchor as recited in claim 1, wherein the first thread has a first side and an opposing second side, the first suture port extending into the first thread from the first side, an open channel being formed on the second side of the first thread so as to communicate with the first suture port.

3. A suture anchor as recited in claim 1, wherein the first suture port transversely extends entirely through the first thread.

4. A suture anchor as recited in claim 1, further comprising a second suture port transversely extending through at least a portion of the first thread at the proximal end of the shaft.

5. A suture anchor as recited in claim 4, wherein the first thread has a first side and an opposing second side, the first suture port and the second suture port extending into the first thread from the first side, an open channel being formed on the second side of the thread, the channel extending between the first suture port and the second suture port.

6. A suture anchor as recited in claim 5, further comprising a helical second thread wound about the exterior sidewall of the shaft so as to extend between the proximal end and the distal end of the shaft.

7. A suture anchor as recited in claim 6, further comprising a third suture port and a fourth suture port each transversely extending through at least a portion of the second thread at the proximal end of the shaft.

8. A suture anchor as recited in claim 1, wherein the exterior sidewall of the shaft slopes radially inward toward the distal end of the shaft.

9. A suture anchor as recited in claim 1, further comprising means for mechanically engaging at least a portion of the shaft so as to enable rotational placement of the shaft.

10. A suture anchor as recited in claim 9, wherein the means for mechanically engaging comprises a bore extending through the shaft from between the proximal end and the distal end thereof.

11. A suture anchor as recited in claim 10, wherein the bore has a polygonal transverse cross section.

12. A suture anchor as recited in claim 10, wherein the bore is bounded by an interior surface that radially inwardly slopes toward the distal end.

13. A suture anchor as recited in claim 9, wherein the means for mechanically engaging comprises a closed end socket recessed within the proximal end of the shaft.

14. A suture anchor as recited in claim 9, wherein the means for mechanically engaging comprises a drive head outwardly projecting from the proximal end of the shaft.

15. A suture anchor comprising:

a substantially cylindrical body having an exterior sidewall extending between a proximal end and an opposing distal end, the proximal end terminating at a proximal end face;

a helical first groove recessed into and about the exterior sidewall of the body so as to extend between the proximal end and the distal end of the body;

a bore extending through the proximal end face of the body and projecting toward the distal end of the body, the bore being disposed along a central longitudinal axis of the body; and

a first suture port extending through the proximal end face of the body so as to communicate with the helical first groove.

16. A suture anchor as recited in claim 15, further comprising an open channel extending from the helical first groove to the first suture port.

17. A suture anchor as recited in claim 15, further comprising a second suture port extending through the proximal end face of the body so as to communicate with the helical first groove.

18. A suture anchor as recited in claim 15, wherein the helical first groove terminates distal of the proximal end face.

19. A suture anchor as recited in claim 15, wherein the bore extends entirely through the body between the proximal end and the distal end thereof.

20. A suture anchor as recited in claim 15, wherein the bore has a polygonal transverse cross section.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111